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DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

VERBATIM REPORT OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIRST MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York on
Tuesday, 8 December 1992, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. ERDOS (Hungary)

- Opening of the session
- Adoption of the agenda
- Election of the Chairman and other officers
- Review of the draft resolutions adopted by the First Committee at the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to the Disarmament Commission
- Draft provisional agenda for the 1993 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission
- Organizational matters
- Other business

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The meeting was called to order at 11.00 a.m.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

The CHAIRMAN: I declare open the 1992 organizational session of the Disarmament Commission.

As in past years, the Commission is convened today for a brief session to deal with organizational matters, including the election of a new bureau for 1993, the appointment of the chairmen of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and its draft provisional agenda for the next substantive session, in 1993, all in accordance with its reform programme, entitled "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission", which was adopted in 1990.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (A/CN.10/L.31)

The CHAIRMAN: If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Commission agrees to adopt the agenda contained in document A/CN.10/L.31.

The agenda was adopted.

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND OTHER OFFICERS

The CHAIRMAN: In accordance with the established principle of rotation for the chairmanship of the Disarmament Commission, nominations for the chairmanship for 1993 should come from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States. In that connection, I am pleased to inform members that the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States has endorsed the candidacy of Ambassador Luiz Augusto de Araujo Castro of Brazil for election to the post of Chairman of the Disarmament Commission for the year 1993.

If I hear no comments, I shall take it that it is the wish of the Commission that Ambassador Luiz Augusto de Araujo Castro of Brazil be elected Chairman by acclamation.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: I now declare Ambassador Luiz Augusto de Araujo Castro elected Chairman of the Disarmament Commission for the year 1993.

Ambassador de Araujo Castro of Brazil is a distinguished diplomat who has been well known in United Nations diplomatic circles for many years, particularly for his knowledge and experience in the field of disarmament. He is currently Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations in New York. In the past years he has been very active in the sessions of the General Assembly and the First Committee, as well as in other important disarmament conferences and sessions of the Disarmament Commission. In particular, he served as Chairman of Working Group IV of the Commission, dealing with the role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields in the 1991 session. He also served as Vice-Chairman of the Commission in the 1992 session. Given that broad experience in the United Nations and expertise in the field of disarmament I believe that the Disarmament Commission will, under Ambassador Luiz Augusto de Araujo Castro's leadership, conduct its business successfully at the next substantive session, in 1993. On behalf of the Commission and on my own behalf, I extend to him the warmest congratulations and wish him every success.

Mr. de ARAUJO CASTRO (Brazil): I should like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the very kind words you have just said about me, and I wish to thank all the members of the Disarmament Commission for having decided to confer on my country, Brazil, and on me, the honour and responsibility of chairing the Commission in 1993. In particular, I wish to express my gratitude to the members of my regional group, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, for having decided to nominate me for the chairmanship of the Commission.

(Mr. de Araujo Castro, Brazil)

Having been present at the creation of the United Nations Disarmament Commission in 1978 as a member of the Brazilian delegation to the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, I take personal statisfaction in having been granted the opportunity to work with the Commission over the last two years and in being chosen now to serve as Chairman over the course of the next year. I am well aware of the magnitude of the challenges the Disarmament Commission has before it, in these times of profound changes in the international situation, as the deliberative body entrusted by the United Nations with the responsibility of considering and making recommendations on problems in the field of disarmament.

In carrying out my functions, I shall try to earn as fully as possible the confidence that you have reposed in me. I am certain that, as Chairman of the Disarmament Commission next year, I shall be able to count on the support and cooperation of all delegations. I hope, in particular, to be able to count on the wisdom and experience of my immediate predecessor, Ambassador André Erdös of Hungary, who has done such a remarkable job in chairing the Commission this year, and his predecessor, Ambassador Peter Hohenfellner of Austria, both of whom have done so much to promote the work of the Disarmament Commission. I also feel very confident that I shall be well assisted in my task by the knowledgeable and dedicated members of the Secretariat.

Once again, thank you all very much.

The CHAIRMAN: I thank Ambassador de Araujo Castro for his kind words and I want to assure him that he is perfectly welcome to the Austro-Hungarian background in the activities of the Commission.

We shall now proceed to the election of other members of the Bureau, namely, 8 Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur for 1993. In this connection, I should like to announce the following:

The Group of African States has endorsed the candidacies of Mauritius and Benin for vice-chairmanship of the Commission for 1993.

The Group of Asian States has endorsed the candidacies of the Republic of Korea and Mongolia for vice-chairmanship of the Commission for 1993.

The Group of Eastern European States has endorsed the candidacy of Bulgaria for vice-chairmanship of the Commission for 1993.

The Group of Latin American and Caribbean States has endorsed the candidacy of Ecuador for vice-chairmanship of the Commission for 1993.

The Group of Western European and Other States has endorsed the candidacy of Ireland for one of its two vice-chairmanships of the Commission. Therefore, there is one vacancy to fill on behalf of the Group of Western European and Other States. I hope that all this will be handled in time and adequately.

If I hear no comment, I shall take it that the Commission wishes to elect the representatives of the aforementioned countries as Vice-Chairmen of the Commission for 1993 by acclamation.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: The next order of business is the election of the Rapporteur of the Commission for 1993. The candidate for that post should come from the Group of Eastern European States. In this regard, I am pleased to announce that that Group has nominated Mr. Stefan Füle of the Czech and

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Slovak Federal Republic to the post of Rapporteur of the Commission for 1993. If I hear no comment, I shall take it that the Commission wishes to elect Mr. Füle of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic as Rapporteur of the Disarmament Commission for 1993 by acclamation.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: I wish to extend my warmest congratulations to all the Vice-Chairmen who have just been elected and to Mr. Stefan Füle for his election as Rapporteur of the Commission. I am sure that he will make an important and meaningful contribution to the work of the Commission in 1993.

Mr. FÜLE (Czechoslovakia): Let me express my personal gratitude for the trust that has just been placed in me. I should like to assure you, Sir, and the other members of the Disarmament Commission that I shall do my best to continue the excellent job that has been done by my predecessor and colleague, the representative of the Netherlands, Mr. Bob Hiensch.

I am fully devoted to the further rationalization of the Commission's work and, of course, to close cooperation with you, Sir, and with the other members of the Bureau. Once again, let me assure the Commission that it will find in the Rapporteur of the Disarmament Commission for 1993 the kind of flexibility and enthusiasm which fully reflects the productive atmosphere of the Commission's work.

REVIEW OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE FIRST COMMITTEE AT THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RELATING TO THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

The CHAIRMAN: As members of the Commission are aware, the First Committee of the General Assembly has adopted two draft resolutions which have specific requests in connection with the work of the Disarmament Commission. For the sake of clarity and the benefit of the members of the Commission, I

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shall refer briefly to those draft resolutions, which will soon be adopted by the General Assembly.

The first draft resolution is contained in document A/C.1/47/L.4, which was adopted by the First Committee under agenda item 63 (a), entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission". From this draft resolution, as orally revised at the 37th meeting of the First Committee, on 20 November, I should like to mention more specifically three preambular paragraphs.

The third preambular paragraph reads as follows:

"Noting the support for the proposal to include a new item in the agenda of the 1993 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission, entitled 'General guidelines for non-proliferation, with special emphasis on weapons of mass destruction',".

The fourth preambular paragraph reads as follows:

"Noting the support for consideration of the inclusion of a new item in the agenda of the 1994 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission, entitled 'International arms transfers, with particular reference to resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991',".

The fifth preambular paragraph reads as follows:

"Recognizing the need to improve further the effective functioning of the United Nations Disarmament Commission and, bearing in mind the experience of the 1992 substantive session, when the agenda item on objective information on military matters was successfully concluded".

I thought it would be useful to read out these three preambular paragraphs. I should like now to turn to the operative part of the same draft resolution. Paragraph 7 reads as follows:

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"7. Recommends that the Disarmament Commission, at its 1992 organizational session, adopt the following items for consideration at its 1993 substantive session:

"(1) Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons;

"(2) Regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security;

"(3) The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields".

I turn now to paragraph 8, which also has relevance to our work today. It reads as follows:

"8. Requests that the Disarmament Commission, at the aforementioned organizational meeting, consider the following matters:

"(a) The objective of moving the agenda of the Disarmament Commission to a three-item phased approach with one item in the first year of consideration, one item in its middle year and one item in its concluding year, with the result that, in principle, one item is added and one item is concluded, respectively, at each substantive session;

"(b) That, in furtherance of the foregoing, the 1993 substantive session should be considered as a transitional year and therefore should consider whether:

"(i) Two items on the current agenda, namely, those items referred to in paragraph 7 (2) and (3) respectively, should be concluded,

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"(ii) One item, namely, that referred to in operative paragraph 7 (1), should be held over for conclusion at the next substantive session in 1994;

"(iii) One new item should be included in the substantive agenda."

(The Chairman)

As I have mentioned, there are two draft resolutions with relevance to our work. The second of these - A/C.1/47/L.15/Rev.1, which was approved by the First Committee under agenda items 51 and 63 (i) - entitled "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields". Operative paragraph 1 of this draft resolution reads as follows:

"1. Calls upon the Disarmament Commission to intensify its work on agenda item 7 and to submit as soon as possible specific recommendations on this matter to the General Assembly".

The reference, in that paragraph, to item 7 is meant to indicate the item that is now number 6 in the draft provisional agenda of the Commission for 1993 - "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields" - to be found in conference room paper A/CN.10/1992/CRP.7, which is before members.

These are the two draft resolutions that have direct relevance to the work of the Disarmament Commission.

It appears that no member wishes to speak with regard to this item.

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 1993 SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

The CHAIRMAN: In the preparations for the organizational session, account was taken of the relevant draft resolutions adopted by the First Committee, as I indicated a moment ago. For the convenience of the members of the Commission, the elements of the draft provisional agenda have been included in conference room paper A/CN.10/1992/CRP.7, which has been circulated to all members.

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Items 4 to 6 of this paper are the substantive agenda items for the next year. These are exactly the same as those of the 1992 substantive session, and they have been agreed upon by members of the Commission.

As members may recall, at the substantive session held in April and May this year the Disarmament Commission successfully concluded one substantive item - "Objective information on military matters" - demonstrating the successful implementation of the provisions of the reform programme. In view of this achievement, and in the interests of continuity and predictability in the work of the Disarmament Commission, two important issues have been proposed by member States as new substantive agenda items for the 1993 substantive session - "International arms transfers", pursuant to General Assembly resolution 46/36 H, paragraph 10; and "General guidelines for non-proliferation, with special emphasis on weapons of mass destruction".

As a result of intensive consultations on the work of the Disarmament Commission during the past few months, the First Committee adopted, without a vote, draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.4, as amended by document A/C.1/47/48 as orally revised. The third preambular paragraph of this draft resolution indicated support for the proposal to include in the agenda of the 1993 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission a new item on general guidelines for non-proliferation. In operative paragraph 8 the Disarmament Commission was requested to consider, at this organizational session, the points to which I referred earlier - a move to a three-item phased approach, with one item in the first year, one item in the middle year, and one item in the concluding year; and the questions whether two items should be concluded, whether one item should be held over, and whether one new item should be included in the substantive agenda.

(The Chairman)

In view of the overwhelming number of requests and the many important issues that are before us for careful consideration and decision, I should like to propose that the issues be taken up one by one.

Operative paragraph 8 (a) of draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.4 as amended refers to the objective of moving to a three-item phased approach, with one item in the first year, one item in the middle year, and one item in the concluding year. As many delegations pointed out, this approach will provide the Disarmament Commission with the benefit of continuity and predictability and enable it to arrange its organizational work smoothly, particularly - and this is an important point - in view of the limited human and conference resources available to it.

If there are no objections to this well-considered option I shall take it that it is the wish of the Commission to adopt the three-item phased approach. Here we are talking simply about the structure. Does any delegation wish to comment on this question?

Mr. de ARAUJO CASTRO (Brazil): Obviously I have no objection to approval of the idea contained in operative paragraph 8 (a), but there is a time element that is not specified in the text, although the paragraph contains the words "moving the agenda" and, thus, gives the sense of beginning to move in this direction.

(Mr. de Araujo Castro, Brazil)

It is my understanding - and, I believe, the understanding of many, if not all, other delegations - that we will try to reach this condition not in 1993, but in 1994. Clearly, this is very much related to the decisions that will be taken in connection with the matters in subparagraph (b). The idea is not that in 1993 we would have this three-item phased approach already in place, but rather that we would be moving in that direction, depending on the decisions that we may be able to take in connection with subparagraph (b) and with the preambular paragraphs that you, Sir, have read out.

The CHAIRMAN: I agree that all these paragraphs and subparagraphs are linked, so that we must consider them as a whole. But I propose to deal with them one by one, from the beginning to the end. I share your perception, Ambassador de Araujo Castro, and I also refer to paragraph 8 (b) of the draft resolution on the report of the Disarmament Commission, as orally revised, which states that

"the 1993 substantive session should be considered as a transitional year".

I also agree that 1994 should be the first year when this three-phased approach could blossom in its full splendour.

If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Disamament Commission is ready to adopt this three-item phased approach.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: We turn now to the second and third questions contained in the material before us. In the light of Ambassador de Araujo Castro's comments - and this is my own perception, too - there is an

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intimate and important relationship between all these questions; they should therefore be considered as a whole even if our decisions are to be made individually.

Paragraph 8 (b) begins

"That, in furtherance of the foregoing, the 1993 substantive session should be considered as a transitional year". (A/C.1/47/PV.37, p. 33)

Therefore, the Disarmament Commission faces a decision as to whether two items, regional disarmament and the role of science and technology, should be concluded in 1993, and whether one item, nuclear disarmament, should be held over for conclusion in 1994.

As a result of intensive consultations over recent months, agreement has developed in principle that such a prolongation of consideration of one item is most desirable if success is to be achieved on all three items. Let me repeat for the sake of absolute clarity, and in order to avoid any misunderstandings and misinterpretations, that prolongation is not equivalent to shelving a problem. The item whose consideration is supposed to be prolonged will remain on the working agenda; a working group will be set up; its chairman will be appointed; a limited number of meetings may be held in order to allow the assessment of new developments related to this prolonged item; working papers may be submitted on the item; and the chairman of the relevant working group will be free to conduct informal consultations at any time prior to the 1994 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission. All members understand this, but I thought it useful to repeat it now.

I now return to the questions before us. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that it is the wish of the Disarmament Commission to conclude at its 1993 substantive session the following two agenda items: "Regional approach

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to disarmament within the context of global security" and "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields". Those are items 5 and 6 of the draft provisional agenda (A/CN.10/1992/CRP.7) for the 1993 substantive session.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: We will therefore conclude the questions of regional approach and science and technology in 1993.

Let me turn now to the second half of the arrangement, contained in paragraph 8 (b) (ii) of draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.4, as it was adopted in the First Committee, bearing in mind the understanding that I have described; the question is the prolongation.

If I hear no objection, I shall take it that it is the wish of the Disarmament Commission to prolong to the 1994 substantive session conclusion of the agenda item entitled "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons", which is item 4 of the draft provisional agenda (A/CN.10/1992/CRP.7) for the 1993 substantive session.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: The fourth question before us, which is contained in paragraph 8 (b) (iii) of the draft resolution, is whether the Disarmament Commission at its 1992 organizational session should consider whether

"One new item should be included in the substantive agenda."

(A/C.1/47/PV.37, p. 33)

for its 1993 session.

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I am very sorry to say that all the extensive consultations on this issue in the past several months, and in particular in the course of the last two weeks of the First Committee's activities, were unable to lead to a consensus. That is why the Disarmament Commission has been requested to consider the issue at the organizational session, with a view to reaching a decision in time prior to the Commission's 1993 substantive session. That is also why item 7 of the draft provisional agenda (A/CN.10/1992/CRP.7) appears in square brackets.

As a result of more recent consultations that the Chairman held following action in the First Committee on 20 November, it became evident that the Commission was not in a position now to take a decision on this issue. I therefore suggest that we leave this matter pending for the time being. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Disarmament Commission agrees.

It was so decided.

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

The CHAIRMAN: Organizational matters include the establishment of subsidiary bodies, the appointment of chairmen of subsidiary bodies and the adoption of the date, duration and programme of work for the 1993 substantive session.

As regards the establishment of subsidiary bodies, the Disarmament Commission has at this stage agreed upon three substantive agenda items for the 1993 substantive session, as contained in document A/CN.10/1992/CRP.7, and that we should continue to have three working groups to deal with these three subjects. I should like to add that an additional subsidiary body may be established at a later date, pending the decision on a new substantive agenda item for next year.

If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Disarmament Commission wishes to renew the following subsidiary bodies: The Committee of the Whole, which will deal informally with agenda items 8 and 9 - respectively, the Disarmament Commission's report to the General Assembly, and Other business - as well as any other pertinent issues; Working Group I, which will deal with agenda item 4, "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons"; Working Group II, which will deal with agenda item 5, "Regional approach to disarmament within the context of global security"; and Working Group III, which will deal with agenda item 6, "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields".

May I take it that the Disarmament Commission wishes to renew those working groups and other subsidiary bodies?

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: Let us now turn to the appointment of the chairmen of the subsidiary bodies.

In spite of the efforts made, I am not in a position to propose that the chairmen of the subsidiary bodies be appointed at this meeting. Regional groups have not so far been able to communicate their recommendations for those posts, though candidacies are very much at the centre of discussions. I must therefore suggest that the question of the chairmanship of the various subsidiary bodies and working groups be dealt with at a later stage.

May I take it that that is the wish of the Commission?

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: The last of these organizational matters is the date and duration of the 1993 substantive session. As members are aware, the Conference on Disarmament will finish the first part of its 1993 session on 26 March 1993. Also in this context, the Preparatory Committee for the 1995 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Conference will hold its session from 10 May to 14 May 1993. I should also like to call to members' attention that an important regional conference is scheduled for early April 1993 in Kyoto, Japan. Taking into account the various upcoming meetings and the traditional holidays, the Commission may wish to agree that the 1993 substantive session be scheduled from 19 April to 10 May 1993 - that is, for a period of three weeks and one day, as in previous years.

It was so decided.

The CHAIRMAN: In order to facilitate the work of our colleagues at the next substantive session of the Commission, the Secretariat has prepared a very useful draft general programme, which is being distributed now in

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document A/CN.10/1993/CRP.1. This draft general programme is indicative. An indicative programme was also distributed last year to give members an idea of what the substantive session would look like in terms of logistics, programming and distribution of work. I wish to reiterate that this programme is indicative and subject to change, if necessary, as was the case last year, when we tackled the same issue for the 1992 substantive session.

I should like to stress that the programme for the subsidiary bodies contained in document A/CN.10/1993/CRP.1 cannot be considered final before a decision is taken on the inclusion of an additional agenda item and the eventual establishment of a subsidiary body to deal with that item. Obviously, this is not yet reflected in the draft general programme. It will be up to the Bureau of the Disarmament Commission to propose, in due time, a final draft general programme.

The CHAIRMAN: If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Commission wishes to approve its tentative programme of work for the 1993 substantive session as contained in conference room paper A/CN.10/1992/CRP.1.

It was so decided.

OTHER BUSINESS

The CHAIRMAN: According to provisions of the reform programme adopted, all organizational matters should be concluded at the organizational session of the Disarmament Commission. However, as members have seen and know, in view of a couple of issues that are pending at this stage - namely, the appointment of chairmen for subsidiary bodies as well as the question of the inclusion of one new substantive item in the agenda for 1993 - it might be advisable for the Commission to suspend this organizational session until a later time, so that sufficient time will be available to all delegations for further consultations on the issues that I mentioned.

If there is no objection - and I do not see any alternative, frankly speaking, since we have exhausted all the avenues that seemed feasible, possible and practical to us prior to this organizational meeting - I shall take it, with members' cooperation and indulgence, that it is the wish of the Disarmament Commission to suspend the 1992 organizational session at this stage and resume the session at a later date.

It was so decided.

Mrs. CABALLERO (Colombia) (interpretation from Spanish): My delegation would like to express its gratification at the fact that the Commission has decided that its final objective is to achieve a phased three-item approach. We are pleased to have achieved consensus on this point, but we regret the postponement of the programme until next year.

(Mrs. Caballero, Colombia)

However, on this occasion as on previous ones, we have been flexible in order to maintain consensus on this issue. My delegation wishes to state for the record that it would prefer to have the resumed organizational session of the Commission take place before the resumed meetings of the First Committee and not after them. This is important for two reasons. First, delegations should have enough time to prepare for the work of the Disarmament Commission. Secondly, we believe that our deliberations at the resumed meetings of the First Committee will benefit and be more effective if by then we will have already considered the Commission's agenda. We believe that this matter cannot be put off until the last minute.

The CHAIRMAN: We take note of the statement of the representative of Colombia. No one really regrets more than I do the suspension of the Disarmament Commission's organizational session. I believe we all join in this feeling of regret, but for practical reasons I believe this would be the most logical course of action at this time.

As far as the timing of the resumption of the organizational session of the Disarmament Commission is concerned, it will certainly be the subject of thorough consultations among ourselves. Obviously, we will be duly notified when the time comes. It will be up to the Bureau to consider this matter with all seriousness and to select the most reasonable and practical timing for the continuation of the work that we began at this organizational session.

Mr. AKALOVSKY (United States of America): I shall be very brief. My delegation joined in the adoption of the phased approach to the work of the Disarmament Commission. However, my delegation would like to point out that, as stated in the draft resolution, this is an approach that we are adopting in principle.

(Mr. Akalovsky, United States)

With reference in particular to the remarks of our Chairman-elect, Ambassador de Araujo Castro, I should like to say that my delegation does not view that approach as a rigid one. As I said, it is in principle that we adopted it. I do not believe that other members of the Commission will want to prejudge how long any specific item has to stay on the agenda. I do not think that anyone would wish to imply that any and all items should be on the agenda for three years. Some of them may be concluded in a shorter time, and conversely some of them may perhaps require a year longer. Thus, as I said, in principle my delegation has agreed to this approach, but we do not believe that the Disarmament Commission should be put in a straitjacket in this regard.

The other point I should like to make, with your permission, Sir, is that, again, while my delegation joined in the decision establishing the subsidiary bodies, the reference to agenda items with which the Committee of the Whole is to deal mentions items 8 and 9 of the agenda. Now, those items may be numbered differently, depending on the decision on the question whether one new item should be included in the substantive agenda. Thus, items 8 and 9 referred to may turn out to be items 7 and 8. I am not prejudging anything; I am not forecasting anything; I am just saying that, technically speaking, we are not yet in a position to assign specific numbers to those two items.

The CHAIRMAN: We all take note of the statement of the representative of the United States. I would humbly suggest that we not prepare our barricades for the upcoming consultaticns and discussions at this point in time. Let me say again that we are all in this together, in both the successes and the failures. I hope that there will be much more success than failure, and I also very much hope that we will be able to finish the

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second part of our organizational session next year when we will conclude the 1992 organizational session of the Disarmament Commission.

I believe that I can say at this time that the next plenary meeting of the Disarmament Commission will be duly announced in the Journal of the United Nations. I thank members very much for their cooperation. This session of the Disarmament Commission has had both its successes and its failures, and I believe that we will all focus our attention on successfully completing the organizational session that will resume some time in the first half of next year.

With this, I again thank members for their cooperation and indulgence and I wish all the officials elected for next year success, perseverance and patience.

The meeting rose at 12 noon.